

1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

 An exchange changes a route of a
transmission path to bypass a malfunctioning switch.
The transmission path is formed in a switch network
5 including a plurality of switches for transmitting
communication information. The switch network is
provided with a plurality of inputs and a plurality of
outputs so that the transmission path is formed
between one of the inputs and one of the outputs by
10 routing the switches in the switch network. A
malfunctioning switch detecting unit detects a
location of the malfunctioning switch in the switch
network. The route of the transmission path is
changed by switching one of the inputs and outputs
15 connected to the transmission path based on
predetermined routing information which indicates a
route to bypass the malfunctioning switch in relation
to the inputs or the outputs of the switch network.

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